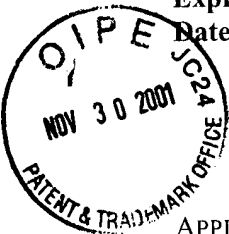


Express Mail No.: EK005134220US

Date of Deposit: November 30, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: 15966-539 CURA-39



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Rothberg

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/417,386

FILING DATE: October 13, 1999

FOR:

METHOD OF IDENTIFYING NUCLEIC ACIDS

EXAMINER: J. Taylor

ART UNIT: 1655

BOX CPA

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the May 30, 2001 Office Action in the above-identified application. With the extension, the response is due on or before November 30, 2001.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, our Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 15966-539 (CURA-39). A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 30, 2001

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
David E. Johnson, Reg. No. 41,874
Sean M. Coughlin, Reg. No. 48,593
Attorney/Agent for Applicants
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,
GLOVSKY and POPEO, P.C.
One Financial Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
Tel: (617) 542-6000
Fax: (617) 542-2241

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